

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 40, 44, 46 and 49. Add new Claim 51. A complete listing of the claims, with proper claim identifiers, is set forth below.

1.-39. (Cancelled).

40. (Currently Amended) A naso-enteral feeding catheter and stylet assembly for ~~jejunal~~ jejunal insertion of the catheter through a patient's nares, stomach, pylorus and duodenum into the jejunum, comprising:

(a) an elongated, very flexible, first catheter tube ~~containing~~ having a urethane surface, said first catheter tube having a proximal end and a distal end and including a naso-enteral feeding lumen and a separate gastric suction lumen extending through said first catheter tube;

(b) an elongated, very flexible, second catheter tube ~~containing~~ having a urethane surface, said second catheter tube having a proximal end and a distal end and including a naso-enteral feeding lumen extending through said second catheter tube;

(c) a mid-port bolus connected to said distal end of said first catheter tube and adapted to communicate in the patient's stomach with said feeding lumen in said first catheter tube, said mid-port bolus having a side port adapted to communicate in the ~~patients~~ patient's stomach with said gastric suction lumen in said first catheter tube, said mid-port bolus also containing a passage connecting said feeding lumen in said first catheter tube with said feeding lumen in said second catheter tube;

(d) a catheter tip bolus connected to said distal end of said second catheter tube, said tip bolus having a nose end and an attachment end, said tip bolus also having a port communicating with said feeding lumen in said second catheter tube; and

(e) a primary, flexible stylet having distal and proximal ends, and a secondary flexible stylet having distal and proximal ends, said primary and secondary flexible stylets each being extendable through each of said naso-enteral feeding lumens of said flexible tubes and movable, relatively to each other, through said feeding tubes to selectively vary the effective stiffness of the catheter tubes whereby said tubes are

adapted to readily travel through a patient's nares, stomach, the pylorus and duodenum into the jejunum.

41. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stylet assembly of Claim 40 further characterized in that:

- (a) said tip bolus has a rounded shape on said nose end; and
- (b) said tip bolus port opens radially of said tip bolus.

42. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stylet assembly of Claim 40 further characterized in that:

- (a) said first catheter tube is an 8 Fr size tube and said second catheter tube is a 5 Fr size tube.

43. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stylet assembly of Claim 42 further characterized in that:

- (a) the overall combined length of said tubes is at least 60 inches.

44. (Currently Amended) The catheter and stylet assembly of Claim 40 further characterized in that:

- (a) said primary stylet includes a wire, said primary wire stylet having a stylet fitting in which the proximal end of said primary wire stylet is seated; and
- (b) said secondary stylet including a twisted wire stylet, said secondary stylet having a second stylet fitting in which the proximal end of said secondary wire stylet is seated;
- (c) said secondary stylet further including a sleeve fitting which releasably connects said primary stylet fitting and said secondary stylet fitting;
- (d) said primary stylet fitting being releasably seated in said sleeve fitting ~~connector~~ with said primary stylet extending into said tube and said secondary stylet fitting being releasably connected to said first stylet fitting with said secondary stylet extending into said first stylet fitting.

45. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stylet assembly of Claim 44 further characterized in that:

- (a) said wire stylets are each comprised of twisted wire.

46. (Currently Amended) A naso-enteral feeding catheter and stiffener assembly for inserting said catheter through a patient's nares, stomach, pylorus and duodenum into the jejunum, comprising:

(a) an elongated, very flexible, first catheter tube containing urethane, said first catheter tube having a proximal end and a distal end and including a naso-enteral feeding lumen and a separate gastric suction lumen extending through said first catheter tube;

(b) an elongated, very flexible, second catheter tube containing urethane, said second catheter tube having a proximal end and a distal end and including a naso-enteral feeding lumen extending through said second catheter tube;

(c) a mid-port bolus connected to said distal end of said first catheter tube and adapted to communicate in the patient's stomach with said feeding lumen in said first catheter tube, said mid-port bolus having a side port adapted to communicate in the ~~patents~~ patient's stomach with said gastric suction lumen in said first catheter tube, said mid-port bolus also containing a passage connecting said feeding lumen in said first catheter tube with said feeding lumen in said second catheter tube;

(d) a catheter tip bolus connected to said distal end of said second catheter tube, said tip bolus having a nose end and an attachment end, said tip bolus also having a port communicating with said feeding lumen in said second catheter tube; and

(e) a primary, flexible stiffener element having distal and proximal ends, and a secondary flexible stiffener element having distal and proximal ends, said primary and secondary flexible stiffener elements each being extendable through each of said naso-enteral feeding lumens of said flexible tubes and ~~moveable~~ movable, relatively to each other, through said feeding tubes to selectively vary the effective stiffness of the catheter tubes whereby said tubes are adapted to readily travel easily through a patient's nares, stomach, pylorus and duodenum into the patient's jejunum.

47. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stiffener assembly of Claim 46 further characterized in that:

(a) said tip bolus has a generally round shaped nose end; and

(b) said tip bolus port opening radially of said bolus.

48. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stylet assembly of Claim 46 further characterized in that:

(a) said first catheter tube is an 8 Fr or smaller size tube and said second catheter tube is a 5 Fr or smaller size tube.

49. (Currently Amended) The catheter and stiffener assembly of Claim 46 further characterized in that:

(a) the overall length of said tubes and bolus being at least 60 inches whereby, when said tip bolus is positioned in said jejunum, said mid-port bolus is positioned in the patient's stomach. ~~approximately 25 inches from said tip bolus.~~

50. (Previously Presented) The catheter and stiffener assembly of Claim 47 further characterized in that

(a) said second catheter tube includes a normally coiled section formed therein adjacent said tip bolus.

51. (New) A naso-enteral feeding catheter and stylet assembly for jejunal insertion of the catheter through a patient's nares, stomach, pylorus and duodenum into the jejunum, comprising:

(a) an elongated, very flexible, first catheter tube having a urethane surface, said first catheter tube having a proximal end and a distal end and including a naso-enteral feeding lumen and a separate gastric suction lumen extending through said first catheter tube;

(b) an elongated, very flexible, second catheter tube having a urethane surface, said second catheter tube having a proximal end and a distal end and including a naso-enteral feeding lumen extending through said second catheter tube;

(c) said first catheter tube is an 8 Fr size tube and said second catheter tube is a 5 Fr tube, the overall combined length of said tubes being at least 60 inches;

(d) a mid-port bolus connected to said distal end of said first catheter tube and adapted to communicate in the patient's stomach with said feeding lumen in said first catheter tube, said mid-port bolus having a side port adapted to communicate in the patient's stomach with said gastric suction lumen in said first catheter tube, said

mid-port bolus also containing a passage connecting said feeding lumen in said first catheter tube with said feeding lumen in said second catheter tube;

(e) a catheter tip bolus connected to said distal end of said second catheter tube, said tip bolus having a nose end and an attachment end, said tip bolus also having a port communicating with said feeding lumen in said second catheter tube; and

(f) a primary, flexible stylet having distal and proximal ends, and a secondary flexible stylet having distal and proximal ends, said primary and secondary flexible stylets each being extendable through each of said naso-enteral feeding lumens of said flexible tubes and movable, relatively to each other, through said feeding tubes to selectively vary the effective stiffness of the catheter tubes whereby said tubes are adapted to readily travel through a patient's nares, stomach, pylorus and duodenum into the jejunum;

(g) said primary stylet including a twisted wire stylet, said primary wire stylet having a stylet fitting in which the proximal end of said primary wire stylet is seated; and

(h) said secondary stylet including a twisted wire stylet, said secondary stylet having a second stylet fitting in which the proximal end of said secondary stylet is seated;

(i) said secondary stylet further including a sleeve fitting which releasably connects said primary stylet fitting and said secondary stylet fitting;

(j) said primary stylet fitting being releasably seated in said sleeve fitting with said primary stylet extending into said tube and said secondary stylet fitting being releasably connected to said first stylet fitting with said secondary stylet extending into said first stylet fitting.